

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-05 /021 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 200398 TOSEC 100053

FOR UNDER SECRETARY SISCO

FOLLOWING REPEAT ANKARA 6412 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ATHENS
LONDON NICOSIA USUN NEW YORK NATO ADANA ISTANBUL IZMIR 19
AUGUST.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 6412

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, CY, US

SUBJECT: US ACTION REARDING TURKISH POSITION ON CYPRUS

1. ALTHOUGH WE MUST CONTINUE TO COPE WITH CONSTANT DAILY
ADJUSTMENT PROBLEMS, OUR RELATIONS WITH TURKEY REAMIN IN
SOMETHING OF A HOLDING PATTERN FOLLOWING THE PRECEPITOUS DROP
CAUSED BY THE JULY 24 CONGRESSIONAL REFUSAL TO LIFT THE ARMS
EMBARGO. DESPITE FORMER PRIMIN ECEVIT'S PERIODIC GOADING
OF THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT TO FURTHER ACTION AGAINST US, THIS
HOLDING PATTERN IS LIKELY TO REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL THE NEXT
KEY TURNING POINT IS REACHED, NAMELY, THE UPCOMING HOUSE
VOTE ON THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO WHICH IS WIDELY EXPECTED
HERE TO TAKE PLACE SOME TIME IN SEPTEMBER (AMBASSADOR
ESENBEL IS TELLING TURK OFFICIALS THAT IT WILL COME
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IN EARLY SEPTEMBER).

2. EVEN IF THE CONGRESSIONAL VOTE AUTHORIZES A LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO, WE WILL NOT REPEAT NOT OF COURSE BE ABLE TO RETURN TO THE SITUATION WE HAD ENJOYED HERE BEFORE THE EMBARGO LEGISLATION WAS ENACTED. TOO MUCH DAMAGE TO OUR RELATIONSHIP HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE TO PERMIT THIS. THE BEST WE CAN HOPE FOR IS THAT SUCH A VOTE WILL SIGNAL THE BEGINNING OF A LONG, DIFFICULT AND GRUDGING JOURNEY BACK TOWARD (BUT CONSIDERABLY SHORT OF) THE RELATIONSHIP WE ONCE ENJOYED. THE FORM OF THAT RELATIONSHIP IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO BE CHANGED EXTENSIVELY; SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES SHOULD BE LESS FAR-REACHING BUT WILL NEVERTHELESS BE SIGNIFICANT. THE IMPORTANT POINT, HOWEVER, IS THAT DESPITE THESE NEGATIVE, A FAVORABLE HOUSE VOTE WILL START US ON THE ROAD BACK. WHILE THIS WILL BE A FRUSTRATING PROCESS, IT WILL BRING WITH IT THE POSSIBILITY OF RECONSTRUCTING AN IMPORTANT AND USEFUL (IF MORE LIMITED) RELATIONSHIP.

3. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THE NEXT HOUSE VOTE CONFIRMS THE EMBARGO, THEN WE WILL HAVE IN EFFECT RUN OUT OF "RUNNING ROOM" HERE. BY THAT I MEAN THE FORCES IN THIS COUNTRY WHICH HAVE FAVORED RESTRAINT WITH RESPECT TO GOT COUNTERMEASURES WILL HAVE LOST THEIR CONTROL OF THE SITUATION AND WE WILL NOT REPEAT NOT BE FACED SIMPLY WITH SUSPENSION, BUT RATHER WITH THE DISMANTLING OF MUCH THAT IS IMPORTANT IN THE U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE HERE. THIIIS WILL NOT, IN MY JUDGEMENT, LEAD TO A 100 PERCENT WIPE-OUT BY ANY MEANS, BUT IT WILL RESULT IN A SIGNIFICANT ELIMINATION OF MANY U.S. ACTIVITIES. MOREOVER, IT WILL POISON IN A FUNDAMENTAL WAY, A RELATIONSHIP WHICH IS ALREADY UNDER MUCH GREATER PRESSURE THAN APPEARS ON THE SURFACE.

4. GIVEN ALL THAT IS RIDING ON THIS NEXT CONGRESSIONAL VOTE, THEREFORE, I RECOMMEND THAT I BE INSTRUCTED TO MEET WITH THE FONMIN AND TO URGE THAT THE GOT USE IT INFLUENCE TO PRODUCE PROGRESS AT THE SEPTEMBER 8/9 CLERIDES/DENKTASH MEETINGS IN NEW YORK. SEPTELS HAVE POINTED OUT THE INHIBITIONS WHICH GOT IS CURRENTLY OPERATING UNDER IN THIS REGARD, BUT IMPORTANCE OF THIS NEXT HOUSE VOTE, AND BENEFICIAL EFFECT THE CLERIDES/DENKTASH PROGRESS MIGHT HAVE WITH RESPECT TO IT, STRONGLY SUGGESTS THAT SUCH AN APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE.
MACOMBER UNQUOTE ROBINSON
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, POLICIES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, EMBARGOES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE200398
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: P:PMARTINEZ:BDF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750291-0890
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750826/aaaaawcy.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US ACTION REGARDING TURKISH POSITION ON CYPRUS
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, CY, US
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006